

GERMANS TAKING OFFENSIVE

BUT ARE BEING SUFFICIENTLY REPULSED BY THE RUSSIANS AT EASH ENCOUNTER. THE TRENCHES ARE CAPTURED AND THEN RECAPTURED BY THE RUSSIANS.

RUSSIANS ATTEMPT TO DRIVE GERMANS BACK

THE LATTER HAVE CAPTURED BORJINMOW, BUT THE RUSSIANS HOLD THE TRENCHES IN THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CITY.

TURKS AGAIN ACTIVE

FORMERLY DRIVEN BACK BY THE RUSSIANS, THEY ARE NOW ATTEMPTING TO ENTER BY WAY OF NORTHWEST PERSIA.

Petrograd, Jan. 5.—Along an irregular front from the Bzura river to the south and southwest, eighty miles, a terrible battle is again raging, the Germans taking the offensive, and are being repulsed. The Germans captured a few trenches, but lost them again. The Germans occupied a part of the town of Borjinnow, but the Russians and the trenches on the east outskirts are making desperate attacks to drive the Germans back. The Germans crossed the Pilica river at a tremendous cost of life.

A number of the American colony at Moscow has contributed 14,000 presents for children whose fathers are at the front. The gifts consist of gloves, shoes, caps and other articles of wearing apparel, and their distribution will be made during the Russian Christmas.

George Marye, Jr., American ambassador; Mrs. Marye, Henry D. Baker, commercial attaché of the American embassy, and Captain Newton M. Culley, naval attaché, who have come to Warsaw and are expected to distribute Christmas presents from America at the front, will spend the Christmas holidays at Moscow.

Turkish troops, whose defeat was announced by Russia December 22, when they attempted to invade Russia from Turkish soil, are now reported to be attempting to enter the region around Lake Urmiah, in northwestern Persia. The Turks have assembled levies of Persian troops to aid them. It is said that no battle has opened yet, however.

Austrian aeroplanes are daily bombarding Kielce, Russian Poland, 54 miles east of Cracow. Ten bombs were dropped on railroad stations and the freight sheds January 2nd. Little damage was done.

The following official communication was issued last night:

"During January 3rd no important engagement took place south of the Vistula.

"More desperate fighting took place on the night of January 2-3 near Boudimo, where the Germans after an energetic attack captured one of our trenches, but was immediately isolated by our counter attack, in which we captured six guns and 1,700 prisoners and cannon. In the capture of the Ussok Pass the next day we also made many prisoners, took six quick flares. In this region the staff of a column of the enemy, with officers of the line, were taken.

"Through the whole of Bukovina we have occupied much country including a town two-thirds of a mile from the Austro-Hungary frontier.

"In the region of Sari-Kanaysh on January 1 the great battle continued, obviously to our advantage. The enemy, however, continued to offer an obstinate resistance.

"We captured the 50th regiment of infantry almost complete, including the commander and fifty officers. The total of Turkish prisoners amounts to 5,000 soldiers, forty officers, and several surgeons. We also captured six pieces of mountain artillery, fourteen machine guns and ammunition.

"The next day the fighting here was still going on. Our troops recaptured some positions which the Turks had occupied, and took three machine guns and more than 700 prisoners.

"At one point a company of Caucasian regiment was dispersed by bayonet charges, while two Turkish companies were cut to pieces by artillery fire.

"Our troops are operating under conditions exceptionally painful on account of the cold and snow in a high altitude. The morale of our soldiers is good, and they fight with ardor."

NEW COUNTY BOARD'S FIRST MEETING TODAY

ORGANIZED BY ELECTING HON. L. W. WHITEHURST CHAIRMAN. GETS DOWN TO BUSINESS AT ONCE.

The three new members of the Board of County Commissioners elected at the last election to serve the people on the board were present this morning and perfected their organization by electing Hon. L. W. Whitehurst as their chairman. Mr. Whitehurst is not altogether a new man, he having been on the board four years ago, and therefore is familiar with the duties of the office. The other two new members are Hons. D. L. Skipper, who has served for several meetings on the old board, succeeding Joseph Crews, who resigned to take the work of Farm Demonstrator, and Hon. W. M. Whitten, of Punta Gorda, who is a new member, but who, like the other members, is a thorough practical business man, and will add strength to the board. With Major W. G. Welles and John Hagan, hold-overs, the above gentlemen constitute the Board of County Commissioners for DeSoto county.

After the election of the chairman, the board took up the general routine of business, and will be in session for several days considering matters left over by the retiring board, together with new matters to be considered. DeSoto county can justly feel proud of her officers, as we are sure the board is one of the strongest ever elected in DeSoto county.

The former board was in session all day yesterday winding up the past year's work before turning over the reins to their successors.

ENGLAND MAY HAVE TO RESORT TO CONSCRIPTION.

London, Jan. 4.—A hint that the British government intends to begin conscription to fill the troops of the army and navy was dropped by T. J. McNamara, parliamentary secretary to the admiralty, while speaking at the Browning settlement yesterday afternoon.

Referring to the fact that there were many thousands of young men with out dependents who had not answered the call to the colors, Mr. McNamara said:

"If they think they are going to enjoy a life of freedom at the other fellow's expense, they won't enjoy it much longer."

JAPANESE CONTRACT LABOR.

Washington, Jan. 5.—Secretary of War Garrison, it was announced yesterday, has declined to interfere with the employment of Japanese labor on contract work of the war department at Schofield barracks, Hawaii, on the ground that he is without authority to do so in the absence of law on the subject.

The secretary's decision was in response to a request from the San Francisco Labor Council that citizen labor be given preference on contracts made by the war department, the complaint being based on employment of Japanese labor by a sub-contractor in the laying of a ditch at the barracks. The contract contains no restrictions against the employment of alien laborers, and there is no law requiring or permitting such provision to be inserted in contracts of this character.

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE.

Sacramento, Cal., Jan. 5.—Yesterday was opening day for the 41st session of the California legislature, with a large progressive majority in the senate. Titular progressives do not control in the assembly, but claim sufficient accession from the republicans and democrats to insure a majority there in supporting what are known as the administration measures.

These measures do not include any anti-alien legislation either as to land tenure or labor, and semi-official declarations are that no such legislation is probable.

RURAL CREDITS LAW.

Washington, Jan. 5.—President Wilson has received pressing requests from several sections of the country that rural credits legislation be taken up during the present session of congress, and he is considering the advisability of changing his plans to put the subject over to next December.

Chairman Glass, of the house banking committee, told the president yesterday it would be advisable to take up the subject.

FLORIDA LANDS CASE.

Kansas City, Jan. 5.—Hearing on a motion for a new trial of E. C. Chambers, recently convicted of using the mails to defraud in connection with Florida Everglades lands, was begun yesterday in the federal court. The defense endeavored to show undue influence was brought to bear upon the jury before they arrived at a verdict finding Chambers guilty. Every member of that jury has been subpoenaed.

STEINBACH THE SCENE OF BLOODY OPERATIONS IN THE WESTERN CONFLICT

Details of the Six Days' Battle in the Mountains in the Steinbach Vicinity Show That the Great Conflict Rivals in Ferocity the Battle on the Yser River.

BRITISH WARSHIPS BOMBARD COAST

Great Battle in the West Trenches for Three Hundred and Seventy Miles, Along the Greater Part of Which Fierce Artillery Operations Are in Progress Night and Day.

Paris, Jan. 5.—A great battle line now stretches 375 miles from the North Sea to the borders of Switzerland. German onslaughts east of Germany attempting to recapture lost ground have been repulsed. Steinbach has been destroyed by the French artillery. The French are now bending their energies to capture Seunhelm, the railroad key to Muelhausen. A motorist just arrived says the mountains in the vicinity of Steinbach are trembling with the roar of monster guns and the hills are running red with blood. British war ships are again bombarding the coast. The water tower at Zebrugue has been demolished. Terrible artillery duels east of Amiens along the Aisne and heights of the Meuse continue night and day.

Details of the six days' battle for possession of Steinbach, upper Alsace, show the battle was one of great ferocity. A French correspondent declares the Germans placed women and children in the front ranks, so the French could not fire on them. The French captured the position at the point of the bayonet.

It is officially announced this afternoon that the French infantry attacks have been resumed in Belgium, and

AMERICAN HOSPITAL A GOD-SEND TO SERVANS.

New York, Jan. 5.—Work of the American Red Cross hospital unit in Serbia under the direction of Dr. Edward Ryan, of Scranton, Pa., has saved many lives about Belgrade, according to Miss Emily Simmonds, a British Red Cross nurse, who arrived here yesterday. She had been sent with the first British expeditionary force to France, and from there to Serbia.

"Since the latter part of August, I have been working with the wounded," she said. "With seven young English girls I have worked in the trenches four hundred yards from the firing line for forty-eight hours at a time. The coming of the American unit under Dr. Edward Ryan was a God-send to the Servians, for at the time of their arrival we were down to our last bits of bandages and dressings, and were living on short rations."

"The Servians were compelled to surrender Belgrade because they were short of ammunition.

"Up to the arrival of Dr. Ryan and his American nurses the hospital was constantly in danger of artillery fire. Dr. Ryan's first act was to unfurl the American flag over the building. It was instantly respected, and conditions rapidly improved.

"Half of the Servians are fighting without uniforms. They need medical assistance."

The steamer St. Paul brought six Belgian families—twenty-one persons—the advance contingent of between seventy-five and one hundred families, who expect to settle in the southwest.

ASKS REPARATION FOR SHOOTING OF YANKEES.

Buffalo, N. Y., Jan. 5.—The board of aldermen yesterday adopted a resolution requesting the American government to take action to secure the punishment of those responsible for the shooting of Walter Smith and Charles Dorsch by Canadian soldiers on the Niagara river. Smith was killed and Dorsch was seriously wounded. The resolution asks that "the government secure such justice to the families of the dead and wounded as may be just and proper."

WANT "JEB" STUART'S SON SENT TO WEST POINT.

Washington, Jan. 5.—Governor Stuart and Senator Swanson, of Virginia, asked President Wilson yesterday to honor the memory of General J. E. B. Stuart, Confederate leader, by appointing his grandson, J. E. B. Stuart, of Norfolk, to West Point. The president promised to consider the request.

GARDNER CRITICISES THE ADMINISTRATION.

Washington, Jan. 4.—In a speech in the house today Mr. Gardner, of Massachusetts, caustically criticised the administration's policy relative to an army increase. He declared a congressional inquiry was muzzled by the administration.

BOARD OF TRADE MOVED INTO NEW QUARTER TODAY

SECRETARY GARDNER FITTING UP COMMODIOUS QUARTERS—FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

This morning Secretary Gardner moved his effects into the new Board of Trade chambers on West Oak street, and is busy getting the rooms and furniture arranged, which will be in the next few days. It is the intention of Mr. Gardner and the Board of Trade to make this place comfortable and pleasant for the visitors to our town, where they can drop in and get what information they desire concerning the advantages and resources of the county. A display of fruits, vegetables and farm products will be on display at these rooms, together with a supply of reliable printed matter for free distribution.

The Board of Trade in selecting a secretary who will devote his whole time to the affairs of the city and county, and opening up a permanent office which will be kept open to the public at all times, has taken a step in the right direction and should receive the commendation and hearty support of every citizen of Arcadia. It will take considerable money to support this movement, and it is earnestly hoped that every citizen will give it their liberal financial assistance. It is now up to each individual to do his part and the board will do the rest.

BROWN & JONES SECURE COUNTY ATTORNEYSHIP.

Has Grown to Be a Position of Great Importance to the County.

The law firm of Brown & Jones, of this city, were successful this morning in being named by the new Board of County Commissioners as attorneys to the board during the ensuing term. This is a very high compliment to this recently organized firm of Arcadia lawyers, and fully attests the high esteem in which they are held for straightforwardness and efficiency.

MAN KILLS WIFE AND THREE CHILDREN.

Lurray, Va., Jan. 4.—Four persons, a mother and her three children, were found dead with their skulls crushed in their mountain home near here yesterday. They were Mrs. Charles E. Turner, 27; James Turner, 5; Walter Turner, 4; and a baby one year old. The whereabouts of Charles Turner, Sr., the father and husband, is unknown. He was recently released from the state convict camp, to which he had been sentenced for felonious assault.

The children apparently had been killed as they slept, but the disordered condition of the room indicated that the mother had fought desperately for her life. The scene of the tragedy is an isolated section at the base of Macconnet mountain, about five miles from here.

MISSIONARIES GO TO AID OF PRISONERS IN SIBERIA.

Washington, Jan. 5.—To relieve German and Austrian war prisoners a committee of missionaries, principally Americans, started today from Berlin for the interior of Siberia, bearing medical supplies and clothing furnished by the American Red Cross.

The prisoners generally have been paroled under pledge not to leave the neighborhood. Their only wants are food, clothing and medicine.

RUSSIAN AEROPLANES DO MUCH DAMAGE.

Lemberg, Galicia, Jan. 5.—Two Russian aeroplanes engaged three Austrian air ships in a battle above Przemyśl today. At five thousand feet the Russians dropped six bombs on the forts, destroying three guns. Three Austrian ships arose, one being disabled, and the others forced to descend. The Russians returned to their station undamaged.

AUSTRIA CLAIMS BIG VICTORY OVER THE RUSSIANS.

Vienna, Jan. 5.—The Austrians decisively checked the Russians advancing on Cracow, inflicting heavy losses and taking thirty thousand prisoners. The Russian casualties are severe around the Dunajec river.

PORTUGUESE HAVE CLIMBED INTO THE WAR.

Lisbon, Jan. 5.—It is officially announced that Portuguese troops have engaged the Germans at Angola, West Africa. This aligns Portugal with the allies.

MAN OFFICIALLY ADMITS ALLIES HAVE CAPTURED IMPORTANT PLACES

BONNET ONSLAUGHT

STOR the "Formidable," Was AND Parently No Change in DID MWar Zone.

GERMANS MAKE IMPORTANT POLITICAL STATEMENTS

IT IS THE GERMAN CLAIM THAT THE SITUATION SOUTH OF THE VISTULA IS VERY FAVORABLE TO THEIR SUCCESS.

REPULSE FRENCH ATTACKS

IN ALSACE THE FRENCH ARE REPULSED, AND THE GERMANS CLAIM TO BE MAKING PROGRESS WEST OF WARSAW.

Berlin, Jan. 5.—Repulse of French attacks in Alsace and Argonne, the blowing up of a French trench north of Arras, and progress by the Germans west of Warsaw are the chief points in the official statement this afternoon.

Official announced this afternoon that German aviators successfully raided British ammunition store houses at Rosendael and Conderkerque near Dunkirk, and a hundred British were killed by bombs. Ammunition and the outskirts of the village fired.

The Germans have captured the Polish town of Borjinnow, an important railroad town. The situation south of the Vistula greatly favors the Germans.

The official bureau yesterday said: "In the western theatre of war, except for a more or less heavy artillery combat along the front, it was generally quiet."

"Only near Thann, in Alsace, did the enemy show great activity. After an overwhelming bombardment of the heights to the west of Seunhelm, the enemy succeeded during the evening in capturing our demolished trenches on these heights and in connection therewith the village of Steinbach, which we stubbornly defended, and which frequently has been mentioned in our reports."

"In the eastern theatre of war the situation is unchanged. Our attacks in Poland to the east of the Rawka river continue."

GOVERNMENT WANTS EXPORTERS TO CO-OPERATE.

Washington, Jan. 5.—Treasury officials today are preparing a circular urging American exporters to co-operate with the government in a plan to certify cargoes of neutral ships. The suggestion is adopted as a result of a point involved in the protest of the United States to Great Britain against interference with American shipping.

WARSAW SAID TO BE IMPREGNABLE.

London, Jan. 5.—It is reported five million Russian soldiers have passed through Warsaw going westward and southward. Warsaw is surrounded by immense field fortifications and it is believed it is impregnable.

SUPREME COURT AFFIRMS LOWER COURT.

Washington, Jan. 5.—The supreme court today affirmed the judgment of a quarter of a million dollars obtained by Lowe & Company, Danbury hatters, against members of the Hatters' Union for damages resulting from a boycott.

MANATEE MAN KILLED BY TRAIN IN GEORGIA.

Waycross, Ga., Jan. 5.—R. C. Sweet, 47, was killed by a train here last night. He lived at Manatee, Fla.

J. C. Dazey, of Palmdale, has closed up his work with the Palmdale Land Company, of Kansas City, and Mr. Dazey will continue to make his home in Palmdale, and will open up a local land office there.

Frank Jones, deputy sheriff of Jacksonville, returned last night with a white prisoner from Wauchula, charged with embezzlement.

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